

## FOR THE WEE FOLK.

## Linen Leads in the Modes for Little Ones.

## THE COLLAR A GREAT FEATURE.

## Points for Mothers to Remember About Children's Clothes.

## Fashions of Grown-Up People Followed

A Note of Red in Favor—Pink Still Among the Popular Materials—Unlimited Choice Among Sheer Wash Frocks—Flowered Materials—Colored Embroideries Much Used—Many Varieties of Thin Stuffs to Choose From.

The dress of the little folk holds faint echoes of the fads prevailing in the fashions for grown-ups. The hand work, the heavy lace, the deep collar, the stoles, all appear in modified form upon the frocks for wee girls and boys, and the materials that are new and popular are in many cases adopted for children's wear.

In this province of fashion, as in all others, linen has tremendous vogue, and in its many forms, supplies the smartest of the tub frocks and suits for the very little men and women. Linen, of course, or fine mesh, rough or smooth finish, has, to a great extent, superseded piqué for children's wear; and though white linen stands first in favor, all the cool blues and greens and pinks and fawns are much liked.

These linen frocks are, as a rule, made rather severely, though, occasionally, one sees upon even a little tot linen combined with heavy lace after the fashion affected by harlequins. Contrasting bands or bands of color give a more childlike effect and the wash linen or cotton with embroidery in designs not too elaborate are distinctly successful.

Russian cross stitch embroidery in frank reds and blues is particularly favored in the making of children's clothes, and delightful little models in white linen are shown, with Russian blouses or Russian smocks trimmed in bands embroidered in the blue and scarlet Russian cross stitch. The blue linen, too, take this trimming well and often a piping of either red or blue adds to the effect.

A note of red appears as frequently in the season's fashions for children as in those for adults and in combination with white gives character without the appearance of warmth which makes solid red a trying summer color. Red stichings or pipings, red scarfs, red leather belts, red embroideries are used not only with the linen, but with all the washable and non-washable fabrics. The bands of crash or linen embroidered in bright color, which are for sale in all the shops, are especially adaptable to children's garments and will give a certain chic to even the plainest little coat or frock.

Piqué has not, by any means, disappeared from the province of children's clothes, although it has been forced to yield first place among heavy washable materials to the linen. It is still a popular and serviceable stuff for sailor and Russian suits and for coats of all kinds, and when used for small girls is often ornamented with heavy insect lace.

Light blue piqué, trimmed in bands of white, the latter being bordered by narrow bands of the blue embroidered in white French knots, forms one pretty and simple model for a girl of six years; and a somewhat similar idea is carried out in a Russian blouse suit for a boy of 4, the material for blouse and full knicker in this case being white piqué, while the bands are red and the bordering bands are white with red French knots.

All the heavy mercerized cottons are pressed into service for wee maids and men, and for very serviceable wear, the new rather heavy plaid, and checked ginghams are exceedingly popular. Thanks to the season's fad for plaids and checks, these goods are prettier than ever before and may be found in almost any color combination. These plaids are trimmed in bands or pipings of plain color and many of them are rendered more becoming by a broad collar of embroidered linen or of white embroidered batiste.

The collar is, in fact, the great feature of the average costume for children, and the woman who plans a child's wardrobe should give serious study to collar problems. Through the use of a light collar dark and serviceable frocks or suits may be made becoming and dressy. Through the shaping of a collar a child's figure may be made to look its best.

There are children who should never wear the straight Russian band or the low shield. There are others to whom the very broad collar is most becoming. A little study will make these points clear, and no amount of style will excuse a child's clothes, if they are unbecoming.

The law of good taste demand certain things to children's attire, and, though, in the name of fashion, many offenses against these laws are committed, a child dressed according to the canons is invariably well dressed. In the first place, the clothes should be childlike, not mere replicas of ideas originated for older folk. Simplicity and cleanliness are hygienic in the dressing of children. The simplicity may be of the costly sort, but preposterous elaboration, however costly, is out of place upon the child's frock.

Appropriateness is as essential as simplicity and cleanliness. Fussy play frocks are in bad form. Simple, durable and picturesque garments are the thing for rough wear, and when one pauses out of that province and considers dressier clothes one should still bear in mind the fact that costly stuffs and elaborate trimmings are altogether out of tune with childhood.

One may select the finest of mules, put upon it a vast amount of labor in hand work, use real Valenciennes lace and insertion upon it, run its cost up to an appalling sum; but in the end it must merely give the impression of an indescribably dainty and simple little white frock. Silks, heavy and costly lace and other expensive applied trimmings are essentially unchildlike, and, though many a child of wealthy parents wears them, such a child is not well dressed.

In the field of sheer wash frocks for children the choice is practically unlimited. All the dimities, the lawns, the organdies, the muslins, the batistes are pressed into service. White is, of course, the prevailing note; but the light plain colors are used and the sprigged and flowered stuffs make charming frocks for little girls above 8 years of age.

One must, however, be exercised in choosing the flowered material. Certain

designs are appropriate for child wear. Others are not. One can hardly lay down a hard and fast rule in the matter. The thing must be felt, but it is safe to say that the small flower designs suit child wearers better than the large sprawling designs beloved by grown-ups. Little aprons or sprays or pompadour nosegays, they wreaths, wandering vines with small blossoms on a plain ground make exquisite child frocks, with washable and ribbons separating the most pronounced shades in the blossoms.

Certain stuffs with a ground of alternate thick and sheer stripes or silky and dull stripes in one tone scattered over with small blossoms are effective; and material with alternating plain and flowered stripes is shown in charming models. One such frock in plain pale blue stripes and stripes



of pink flowers on a white ground, has for trimming, ruffles of sheer white above whose hems are inserted bands of the flowered stripes, set into the ruffle with open-work stitch. These flowered stripes, usually cut from dimity, are used in this same way as trimmings for sheer all white frocks and the result is admirable.

Valenciennes lace and much hand tucking and shirring are the delicate trimmings for the frocks of thin white, but other wash laces are used and real Irish lace, though hardly appropriate, is seen upon many children's organdie frocks. Real laces, in all the popular varieties, are used upon elaborate cloaks and costumes for children; but fortunately even the women who can well afford such things do not, as a rule, go in for them.

More and more, hand work is replacing for the fastidious the profusion of lace and embroidery formerly in evidence upon machine-made children's clothes, and a little frock of very fine sheer material trimmed in hand run tucks, hemstitching, etc., has much more distinction than a heavily trimmed machine-made frock. That fact can not be too much emphasized or too carefully considered by the mother who wants her small children well dressed. Machine-made tuckings, hemstitchings, etc., to be bought by the yard are pretty and certainly save time and labor, but they leave much to be desired as a trimming for children's frocks.



Colored embroideries are much in evidence upon play frocks of linen, gingham, etc., and the all white batiste and Swiss embroideries, lovelier this season than ever before, are used with good results upon children's clothes. Quimpes, boleros, collars and band trimmings of fine all-over embroidery get an added charm from the introduction of hand work.

Sometimes the pattern of the embroidery is merely outlined in wash silk. Sometimes the main figure in the pattern is embroidered by hand in long and short stitch; or, if the design is very open or has wide or crescentic lines, the edges may be buttonhole-stitched in color.



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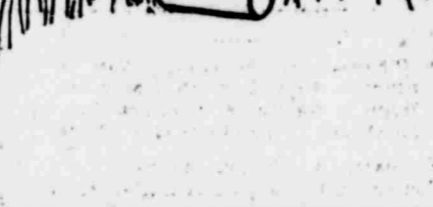
pink wash silk. Another hand-made frock of plain white Persian lawn has for its only applied trimming a deep border of exquisite Swiss embroidery whose design is reinforced by touches of hand embroidery in pale green.

Pale green in the soft, organdies, is, by the way, considered very chic for children's wear, and, to accompany white frocks this season, and is rather a novel touch.



These frocks are of course for girls from 7 to 12. The tiny tots do not aspire to such gorgeousness.

Frocks for the very little folk are in the French form with long waist and much abbreviated skirts, standing out crisply in one-piece princess form. Mother Hubbard frocks hanging straight from dainty hand-made yokes are eminently childlike and hold their popularity.



The long-waisted French frocks are very much of a muchness so far as design is concerned and depend for variety upon material and detail; but one thing must be assured. The tiny skirts must flare crisply, and, if they don't, the effect of the model is lost. A sheer French frock with limp and drooping skirt is the most forlorn garment a child ever wore.

The one-piece frocks take various forms lavishly with lace and insertion. Many of these are worn over soft pink silk slips in plain color; but some have an entire under-dress of fine organdie veiled in chiffon, both being in solid color.

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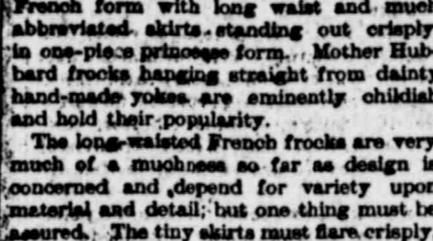
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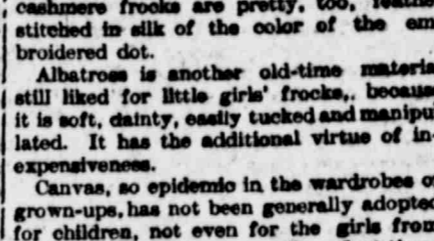
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men has brought them out in most attractive designs.

Dotted cashmere is another material favored for children's wear, and, in the lighter shades, is made into very dainty and dressy little frocks. One good model in cream cashmere, with embroidered silk dots of light blue, was trimmed with bands of light blue tulle, stitched in white. These cashmere frocks are pretty, too, feather stitched in silk of the color of the embroidered dots.



Albatross is another old-time material still liked for little girls' frocks, because it is soft, dainty, easily tucked and manipulated. It has the additional virtue of inexpensiveness.

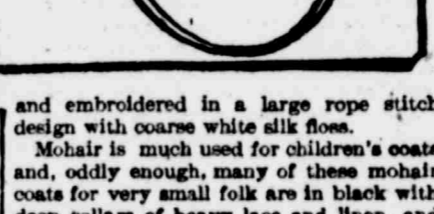
Canvas, so epidemic in the wardrobes of grown-ups, has not been generally adopted for children, not even for the girls from 8 to 12, whose modes generally reflect those affected by their older sisters and their mothers. The Scotch plaid etamines are the exception and are particularly youthful besides being cool and serviceable.



The new soft, lustrous, mohair or alpaca has found favor in the realm of child fashions, and though their harsh texture does not recommend them for wear by very small children, both little boys and girls sport sailor suits and Russian suits of this material.

Its wearing qualities and dust shedding faculty commend it, and, especially in white with a trimming of color the alpaca suits and dresses are very attractive. Bands of tulle on broadcloth trim these garments and silk braid often enters into the design.

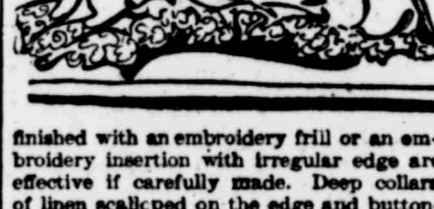
For example, a side-plaited one piece frock of cream white alpaca for a five-year-old girl has a wide collar and belt of light blue cloth bordered by white silk fibre braid



and embroidered in a large rope stitch design with coarse white silk floss.

Mohair is much used for children's coats and, oddly enough, many of these mohair coats for very small folk are in black with deep collars of heavy lace and linen, and huge pearl buttons.

Serge and flannel are always stock materials for the child's outfit and the dark suits are brightened by deep collars of bright silk or of lingerie. A well fitting hand-made coat of linen, batiste, or lawn will give cachet to the simplest little frock or coat; and when tuckings, insect lace, embroidery, etc., are not practicable, deep collars of fine all-over embroidered muslin



finished with an embroidery frill or an embroidery insertion with irregular edge are effective if carefully made. Deep collars of linen scalloped on the edge and buttonholed in color, by hand are very smart, and to the buttonholed scallop is sometimes added a sprinkling of French knots in the same wash silk used for the button

holing.

Silks, with the exception of China silks, are little used for children's clothes, but

women who weave hammocks between other tasks were induced to be systematic, and a good supply is the result.

Other Mexican hammocks are of twine, with borders and bands of horse hair plaited in odd designs of black and white. These are also expensive.

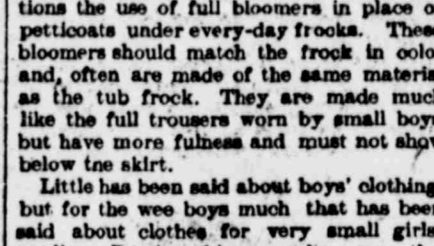
Hammocks of firmly woven mesh, not unlike the basket of the Indian papoose, dampness and not the least thing for a white dress on a hot day.

The gayest hammocks are of the French model, in stripes and bands of alternating colors and decorated with rows of balls and tassels that bob and sway with every movement. These have pillows of fixed and deep valances, and often little fancy canopies over the head. Pink and blue and gray, scarlet and the mixed bronze of the turkey's plumage are some of the color combinations. The French hammocks cost from \$12 up.

Red and yellow hammocks of the pattern of a bandanna handkerchief and of deep colors are brought out for seasons use. There are also adjustable hammocks of sail cloth or burlap, with an overhead railing and screen made of bamboo or raffia that will let the air in and yet shade

below in modified forms are handed down to these small girls, and a frock of dotted or checked wool, with a loose bolero in plain color, ornamented by strappings and little buttons, is a pleasing model.

The skirts of the small girls, though not so abbreviated as those of their little sisters who still wear French frocks, are somewhat shorter than they have been, and are almost without exception plaited or shirred into considerable fulness. The sleeves of the child's dress have not wandered into the vagaries to which the sleeves of grown ups are given over and are in most cases either a full bishop sleeve drooping well over the wristband, or a sleeve cap over a full undersleeve of some kind.



An innovation that should be hailed with joy both by small girls and mothers sanctions the use of full bloomers in place of petticoats under every-day frocks. These bloomers should match the frock in color and, often are made of the same material as the tub frock. They are made much like the full trousers worn by small boys but have more fulness and must not show below the skirt.



Little has been said about boys' clothing, but for the wee boys much that has been said about clothes for very small girls, applies. Russian blouse suits are the usual thing to succeed frocks and pinafores and sailor suits come along in their turn.

Ducks, piques and linens are used for the tub suits and effects are as plain as

possible. Broad white collars and white belts are ubiquitous, but patent leather belts are much worn.

For cool days serge suits made upon the same model used for the tub suits are the thing, and white serge, trimmed in red cloth and gold buttons, is attractive for dress occasions.

**WIDE CHOICE IN HAMMOCKS.**  
Most Expensive of All Are Those Hand Wrought by Mexican Women.

Hand-wrought Mexican hammocks, simple and durable, cost \$88 apiece. They have no valances or decorations, and at first glance the netted cording might be taken for a fish net.

But they are warranted waterproof, no matter how often left out in rains or storms. When soiled they may be washed. Though of plain mesh and one unvaried tint, they have a look of distinction.

These hammocks are not always to be had. Last season New York dealers had to do without them altogether, because the home weavers on the Mexican haciendas did not have any ready. This year the



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the eyes. Such hammocks are used commonly in India and other hot countries.

The ordinary cotton hammocks that sell for \$8 and \$10, much prettier than formerly, and most of them will wear more than one season without fraying. Some are tinted in green and wood colors, others in blended shades of green and yellow and the subdued shades of good tapestry and rug. A hammock very dark green in the center will shade off through intervening tints to pale blue at the edges.

Certain cotton and silk mixtures are decorated in Japanese effects, with the outspread body of a dragon or some winged creature outlined in natural color in the mesh, the groundwork of which is cream color or ivory. Some have big plaid or yellow blossoms on a dark ground work and dark fringe to edge the valance.

## BUSINESS IN HOUSEKEEPING.

Boarding Houses Run by Women Engaged Also in Other Vocations.

It is a noteworthy fact that some of the best conducted boarding houses of to-day are run by women who are regularly engaged in businesses outside of housekeeping. Here is proof that efficient, trustworthy servants